

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01

RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SY-04 PM-03 NSC-05 SS-15

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R 212027Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6108

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 8028

FOL TEL RCVD FROM SAO PAULO SENT ACTION BRASILIA INFO RIO DE JANEIRO
05 OCT 74 BEING RPTD FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, BR

SUBJECT: ARREST AND DETENTION OF PAUL ISRAEL SINGER

REF: SAO PAULO 2130 AND SAO PAULO 2160

1. DURING A CALL ON A USIS OFFICER ON OCTOBER 3, CHIEF
ECONOMIST PAUL SINGER OF CENTRO BRASILEIRO DE ANALISE E
PLANEJAMENTO (CEBRAP) CONFIRMED THAT HE WAS ARRESTED ON
SEPTEMBER 19, HELD INCOMMUNICADO FOR FIVE DAYS, AND INTERROGATED
REPEATEDLY ABOUT HIS UNION AND SOCIALIST PARTY ACTIVITIES IN THE
MID-1950'S, POSSIBLE "COMMUNIST INFILTRATION" AT CERBRAP,
AND THE RELATIONSHIP OF CEBRAP TO THE FORD FOUNDATION. ALTHOUGH
REPEATEDLY THREATENED WITH ELECTRIC SHOCK TORTURE, SINGER
WAS NOT HIMSELF MISTREATED.

2. ANOTHER CEBRAP STAFF MEMBER HOWEVER, VINICIUS CADEIRA,
WAS ARRESTED ON SEPTEMBER 19 SHORTLY AFTER SINGER AND WAS
SEVERELY TORTURED BY ELECTRIC SHOCK THAT EVENING. SINGER ASSERTED
THAT HE HEARD SCREAMS THAT EVENING WHICH HE LATER LEARNED WERE
THOSE OF CADEIRA. ON SEPTEMBER 25, SINGER, CADEIRA AND ANOTHER
CEBRAP STAFF MEMBER, REGIS ANDRADE CASTRO, WHO HAD BEEN ARRESTED
EARLY IN THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 15, WERE RELEASED WITHOUT
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EXPLANATION.

3. SINGER'S INTERROGATORS REPORTEDLY RAISED THE QUESTION OF CEBRAP'S CONNECTION WITH THE FORD FOUNDATION, ASKING WHY IT WAS THAT A COMPANY (SIC) SUCH AS FORD WOULD SUPPORT A "COMMUNIST GROUP" SUCH AS CEBRAP. AT THE SAME TIME, ONE QUESTIONER WONDERED WHY CEBRAP HAD "SOLD OUT" TO THE AMERICANS IN THE GUISE OF FORD.

4. AFTER HIS RELEASE, SINGER LEARNED FROM CEBRAP COLLEAGUES THAT 29 EMPLOYEES OF THE ORGANIZATION INCLUDING SECRETARIES AND CLERKS HAD RECEIVED SUBPOENAS FROM SECOND ARMY HEADQUARTERS TO APPEAR FOR QUESTIONING AT OBAN DURING THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. AT THIS WRITING, THIS QUESTIONING CONTINUES, AND SINGER AND HIS WIFE, ALSO A CEBRAP EMPLOYEE, STILL HAVE TO RETURN FOR FURTHER QUESTIONING.

5. ACCORDING TO SINGER, THE ATMOSPHERE AT CEBRAP IS TENSE AND SINGER IS UNCERTAIN ABOUT ITS FUTURE. SINGER SEES THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ATTEMPT ON THE PART OF THE AUTHORITIES TO HARASS CEBRAP THROUGH REPEATED INTERROGATIONS OF ITS EMPLOYEES, A MOVE WHICH WOULD SERIOUSLY IMPAIR ITS RESEARCH AND COULD RESULT IN THE EARLY CLOSING OF THE ORGANIZATION.

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